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AUTHOR Mason-Dorman, Cheryl; And Others
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ABSTRACT

This report describes the dropout rate for the Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) School District for the year 1985-86. All students eligible to drop out--those between 15 and 21 years old in grades 7 through 12 or in Special Education or ungraded equivalents--were identified (N=70,025). The number of dropouts--not including runaways or those whose whereabouts were unknown--was 3,061 females and 3,788 males (9.8%); this rate was lower than that in 1984-85. Tenth graders had the largest number of dropouts (2,545), and the lowest percentages of dropouts for all races and sexes occurred at grades 7 and 8. A total of 4,305 black and 1,162 white students dropped out. There were 32,382 withdrawals (including graduates), which was about 16% of the total enrollment. Most withdrawals occurred at ages 5 to 6 and 14 to 19 years (in kindergarten and grades 1 and 10). Over 61% of those who withdrew were white students leaving public kindergarten and grade 1 for a private or parochial school. The total number of graduates in June of 1986 was 9,437. Tables and graphs provide data on graduates, dropouts, and withdrawals by age, race, and reason for withdrawal. Additional reports are to be published annually, and a cohort study of grade 9 is currently being conducted. Appendices compare the 1979-80 report and provide a glossary of terms and a map of Philadelphia. (SLD)

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SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

GRADUATES, DROPOUTS, AND WITHDRAWALS

1985 - 1986

TM 012 051

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CHERYL MASON-DORMAN, RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Report No. 8722

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PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT
ON
GRADUATES, DROPOUTS AND OTHER WITHDRAWALS
1985 - 1986

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- The dropout rate was 9.8% for the 1985-86 pupil population who could drop out of school (70,025 fifteen to twenty-one year old pupils in grades 7-12 and Special Education or Ungraded age equivalents). The total number of dropouts was 6,849 pupils.

- The total number of withdrawals (including graduates) from the Philadelphia Public Schools in 1985-86 was 32,382, which accounts for about 16% of the total number of pupils enrolled in the schools that year.

- In 1985-86 there were less than half as many dropouts (6,849) as there were non-dropout withdrawals (16,096).

- The total number of graduates in 1986 was 9,437.

- Most withdrawals occurred at ages 5 and 6 and ages 14 to 19.

- Most withdrawals occurred in kindergarten, 1st grade and in 10th grade.

- Whites left the Philadelphia public schools to enter Philadelphia parochial or private schools (01A) more frequently than any other racial group. Kindergarten and first grade pupils who left for this reason (4,162) account for 61% of all system withdrawals for this reason (6,835).

- Dropout withdrawal code 03H "Other, not employed, not needed at home" accounted for 91% (6,228) of all dropout withdrawals (6,849).

- Of the 570 males and 65 females who withdrew from school to enter correctional institutions (01B), 451 were Black males and 55 were Black females. This was 80% of the total number of withdrawals in this category.

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1985 - 1986 REPORT
OF
GRADUATES, DROPOUTS, AND OTHER WITHDRAWALS

I. INTRODUCTION

There are two ways to calculate and report a school district's dropout phenomenon. Both methods involve a descriptive analysis of all pupils who, for well defined reasons, leave the school district before graduation. However, they are both entirely different in their approach in developing the data and the meaning of the results. The approach used in this report accurately describes the dropout rate for the School District for all eligible pupils in a given year. Cohort studies describe the dropout rate for a given grade over a four year period. It is important to note that in a large city one cannot do a cohort study without a well maintained pupil computer data file nor can one accurately compute either of the methods using the data obtained from the other.

The first approach, and that which is used in this publication, focuses on the dropouts and corresponding dropout rates for the entire school system for a given school year. In this publication, we identify all pupils who were eligible to drop out (i.e. - were between the ages 15 and 21 and were in one of the grades 7-12 or were Special Education or Ungraded age equivalents). These pupils constitute the denominator in our equation, while all pupils who actually drop out constitute the numerator. Using this approach, we may say that for the 1985-86 school year, 9.8% of the School District of Philadelphia pupils who could drop out, did drop out.

The second method deals with a cohort study of a given class (grade) over a defined period of time (usually four years). In this approach, all ninth graders for a given year are identified and their records saved in a computer file to study and determine, over a four year period: how many graduated with their class; how many left the Philadelphia Public School System to enroll elsewhere; and how many actually dropped out. This method more accurately describes the "holding power" of a school district's educational program(s). It cannot be used as the dropout rate of the School District per se. The School District of Philadelphia is currently engaged in a cohort study using the 1984-85 ninth grade class as the cohort and will begin to report on this study within the next six months. When the ninth grade cohort analysis is complete, it may show a dropout rate of 35 to 40 percent for this class.

Earlier versions of this report were presented for review to parent organizations, advocacy groups, consultants, the School District's Pupil Personnel and Counseling Office, and to other School District officials prior to final publication. Some of the reviewers were concerned that the School District was including certain pupils as non-dropouts, when they should instead be considered dropouts (i.e. - runaways, whereabouts unknown, and pupils assigned to office rolls). The School District of Philadelphia's classification of withdrawal coding (i.e. - graduates, dropouts, and non-dropouts) is based upon the Child Accounting Format used by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

If the 236 7th-12th grade pupils coded in the runaway (61) and whereabouts unknown (175) categories were included in the dropout totals, (not considering the age criteria), the dropout rate would be increased from 9.8% to 10.1%. If, additionally, all 7th-12th grade office roll withdrawals were included, 311 pupils would be added to the total dropouts. Their inclusion would result in a 10.5% dropout rate compared to the 9.8% dropout rate reported for 1985-86. It is important to remember, however, that for the School District of Philadelphia to report its dropout data in accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Education definitions, these three categories cannot be considered as dropouts. Pupils coded as dropouts who later enrolled in a G.E.D. program remain as dropouts for reporting purposes in this publication.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania reported an 8.1% dropout rate for Philadelphia's Public Schools in 1984-85. The School District of Philadelphia reported a dropout rate of 10.4% for that same year. The lower dropout rate reported by the State can be attributed to the fact that the State used all pupils in grades 7-12 in its denominator while the School District used only pupils in grades 7-12 who were old enough to dropout (i.e. - ages 15-21).

The series of tables contained in this report show the different types of withdrawals that occurred in the Philadelphia public schools during the 1985-86 school year. The basic data for all types of withdrawals were obtained from the Pupil Directory System (PDS). Graduate data are reported by the schools directly to the PDS while dropouts and all other withdrawals are reported to PDS based upon coding determinations given to the school offices by the Home and School Visitors. Enrollment figures used in this report include all pupils who were active (on roll) in the Philadelphia public schools during the 1985-86 school year. Within this report, school withdrawals are divided into three major categories - graduates, dropouts and other withdrawals (non-dropouts).

This is the second report of this kind to be published by the School District of Philadelphia. The first was published for the 1984-85 school year. Prior to that report, the last published report on dropouts was published for the 1979-80 school year. Major differences exist between the two report formats. These differences are defined in a chart in the Appendices section of this report.

The summary of 1986 high school graduates is contained in Section II of this report. Dropouts are displayed and analyzed in Section III. Section IV provides the reader with an overview of all types of withdrawals from the Philadelphia Public Schools. Graduates and dropouts are shown in relation to the other types of school withdrawals.

Specific definitions of graduates, dropouts and other withdrawals appear in the Glossary located in the Appendices. Withdrawals are displayed by reason, race, sex, age, and grade. Various comparisons of the tables used in the report are based upon city summaries of the data, viewed in different manners. District and individual school summaries of the data are available for review in the Administrative and Survey Research Services Office in Room 402 of the School District Administration Building.

II GRADUATE TABLE

All graduates are shown by sex and race on the table displayed below.

The total number graduating in June 1986 was 9,437. Graduation numbers by race are fairly consistent with the racial breakdown within the School District. In 1985-86 the total enrollment percentages were Black - 63.5, White - 24.8, Hispanic - 8.8, Asian - 2.8, and American Indian - 0.1. Sixty point five percent (60.5%) of all graduating students were Black; approximately 30% were White; 6% were Hispanic; 2.9% were Asian, and .2% were American Indian. The percentage of Hispanic graduates was almost three quarters of their representation in the schools. Asian graduate percentages were slightly higher than their enrollment. White graduate percentages were about 5% greater than their enrollment, while Black graduate percentages were 3% lower than Black enrollment percentages.

Males constituted 52% of the enrollment in 1985-86 and females constituted 48% of the enrollment. Graduation percentages of the sexes were reversed, however, with over 6% more females graduating than males. Male graduates, within the races, were greater in numbers than females among Whites, Asians and American Indians. Hispanic males and females graduated in similar proportions to each other; while Black females graduated in numbers equal to 4.4% greater than Black males.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SUMMARY OF GRADUATES BY SEX AND RACE - 1985-86

SCHOOL NO. NAME	--- BLACK --- NO. GRADS	PER-CENT	--- WHITE --- NO. GRADS	PER-CENT	- HISPANIC -- NO. GRADS	PER-CENT	--- ASIAN --- NO. GRADS	PER-CENT	AM IND/ALASKAN NO. GRADS	PER-CENT	--- TOTAL --- NO. GRADS	PER-CENT
CITY TOTALS												
FEMALE	3141	62.5	1424	28.3	323	6.4	131	2.6	4	.1	5023	53.2
MALE	2566	58.1	1445	32.7	247	5.6	141	3.2	15	.3	4414	46.8
TOTAL	5707	60.5	2869	30.4	570	6.0	272	2.9	19	.2	9437	100.0

III. DROPOUT TABLES

Dropout Tables 1A and 1B provide the reader with comparisons of the dropout data for the 1985-86 and 1984-85 school years. Table 1A shows the actual numbers and percents of the dropout population by race; while Table 1B allows the reader to compare those dropout statistics to the potential dropout population by numbers and percentages within race.

TABLE 1A. COMPARISON OF DROPOUTS BY RACE

School Year	Total Dropouts	%	Black		White		Hispanic		Asian		Amer. Ind.	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1985-86	6,849	100.0	4,305	63.0	1,662	24.0	733	11.0	143	2.0	6	0.0
1984-85	7,434	100.0	4,672	63.0	1,818	24.0	784	10.5	145	2.0	15	0.2

TABLE 1B. COMPARISON BY RACE OF POTENTIAL DROPOUT POPULATION

School Year	Total Dropout Eligible Enrollment	%	Black		White		Hispanic		Asian		Amer. Ind.	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1985-86	70,025	100.0	44,113	63.0	17,933	26.0	5,736	8.0	2,153	3.0	90	0.1
1984-85	71,467	100.0	44,609	62.4	18,981	26.5	5,786	8.0	1,982	3.0	109	0.1

Dropout withdrawals (ages 15 through 21) are displayed on Table 2. The data are analyzed by race, sex and grade as a percentage of grade enrollment. Grade enrollment on this table is equal to the total number of pupils in the particular grades who were ages 15 through 21. All of the dropout table enrollments include only those pupils who could have dropped out (i.e. 7th - 12th grades, Ungraded (UG) or Special Education and, 15 through 21 years of age) in each grade.

The total number of 1985-86 dropouts was 6,849 pupils. By comparing the dropouts to the pupil population who are within the grade and age appropriate enrollment, the dropout rates of these grades can be seen individually and collectively (i.e.- how many of the 7th grade class who could drop out, actually dropped out, etc.). Viewing the dropouts in this manner produces a dropout rate of 9.8%.

The American Indian/Alaskan percentage of dropouts was 6.7%, (6 dropouts out of 90 pupils). Because they are so few, the reader is cautioned to use care when analyzing these data.

Within grade, tenth graders had the largest number of dropouts (2,545), producing a dropout rate of 12.5%. Eleventh graders were second in dropout frequency with 1,685 dropouts (11.7%). Third in dropout frequency were twelfth graders with 1,216 dropouts. Their dropout rate was 10.3%. All of these dropout rates are lower than those from the 1984-85 school year.

Within race, tenth grade Hispanic pupils had an 18.0% dropout rate with 19.8% of the Hispanic males (195) and 16.1% of the Hispanic females (140) dropping out in 10th grade. The total number of 10th grade Hispanic dropouts was 335. Overall the Hispanic dropout rate was 12.8%.

The next highest dropout rate within the 10th grade dropouts was among Blacks with 1,637 dropouts and a 12.6% dropout rate. Black males (860) and females (777) in tenth grade both dropped out in similar proportions. Tenth grade Whites dropped out with the next highest percent (10.8%) with 530 dropouts.

The second highest number (1,685) of dropouts within grade occurred in the 11th grade (11.7%). Proportions of 11th grade dropouts by race were lower than the 10th grade dropouts, but the greatest numbers and percentages of dropouts still occurred among Hispanics (161 - 16.3%), Blacks (1,063 - 11.7%), and Whites (408 - 10.5%).

The lowest percentages of dropouts for all races and sexes occurred in 7th (2.2%) and 8th (2.7%) grades. Over three-fifths of the 6,849 dropouts were Black (4,305); about one-fourth of all 1985-86 dropouts were White (1,662).

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 2. DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS (AGES 15 THRU 21) ANALYZED BY RACE, SEX AND GRADE AS A PRCNT OF AGES 15-21 ENROLLMENT - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

	BLACK			WHITE			HISPANIC			ASIAN			AM IND/ALASKAN			ALL RACES		
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T
GRADE 7																		
ENROLLMENT	203	398	601	58	127	185	56	90	146	22	29	51	1	2	3	340	646	986
DROPOUTS	9	3	12		7	7	1	2	3			0			0	10	12	22
PERCENT	4.4	.8	2.0		5.5	3.8	1.8	2.2	2.1			.0			.0	2.9	1.9	2.2
GRADE 8																		
ENROLLMENT	899	1342	2241	255	440	695	179	241	420	59	72	131	2	3	5	1394	2098	3492
DROPOUTS	28	41	69	0	14	22	2	3	5			0			0	38	58	96
PERCENT	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	1.1	1.2	1.2			.0			.0	2.7	2.8	2.7
GRADE 9																		
ENROLLMENT	4549	5336	9885	1618	2137	3755	558	598	1156	222	263	485	2	12	14	6949	8346	15295
DROPOUTS	316	339	655	89	144	233	41	46	87	7	8	15		1	1	453	538	991
PERCENT	6.9	6.4	6.6	5.5	6.7	6.2	7.3	7.7	7.5	3.2	3.0	3.1		8.3	7.1	6.5	6.4	6.5
GRADE 10																		
ENROLLMENT	6292	6698	12990	2314	2599	4913	871	985	1856	284	294	578	12	9	21	9773	10585	20358
DROPOUTS	777	860	1637	218	312	530	140	195	335	15	26	41	2		2	1152	1393	2545
PERCENT	12.3	12.8	12.6	9.4	12.0	10.8	16.1	19.8	18.0	5.3	8.8	7.1	16.7		9.5	11.8	13.2	12.5
GRADE 11																		
ENROLLMENT	4596	4451	9047	1856	2047	3903	499	486	985	210	260	470	4	14	18	7165	7258	14423
DROPOUTS	490	573	1063	170	238	408	80	81	161	20	33	53			0	760	925	1685
PERCENT	10.7	12.9	11.7	9.2	11.6	10.5	16.0	16.7	16.3	9.5	12.7	11.3			.0	10.6	12.7	11.7
GRADE 12																		
ENROLLMENT	3730	3524	7254	1617	1794	3411	396	378	774	168	180	348	5	16	21	5916	5892	11808
DROPOUTS	315	431	746	131	204	335	38	64	102	16	15	31	1	1	2	501	715	1216
PERCENT	8.4	12.2	10.3	8.1	11.4	9.8	9.6	16.9	13.2	9.5	8.3	8.9	20.0	6.3	9.5	8.5	12.1	10.3
UNGRADED																		
ENROLLMENT	702	450	1152	306	293	599	51	38	89	35	47	82	3	2	5	1097	830	1927
DROPOUTS	38	25	63	50	42	92	7	3	10	2	1	3	1		1	98	71	169
PERCENT	5.4	5.6	5.5	16.3	14.3	15.4	13.7	7.9	11.2	5.7	2.1	3.7	33.3		20.0	8.9	8.6	8.8
SPECIAL EDUCATION																		
ENROLLMENT	304	639	943	183	289	472	117	193	310	2	6	8		3	3	606	1130	1736
DROPOUTS	19	41	60	16	19	35	14	16	30			0			0	49	76	125
PERCENT	6.3	6.4	6.4	8.7	6.6	7.4	12.0	8.3	9.7			.0			0	8.1	6.7	7.2
ALL GRADES																		
ENROLLMENT	21275	22838	44113	8207	9726	17933	2727	3009	5736	1002	1151	2153	29	61	90	33240	36785	70025
DROPOUTS	1992	2313	4305	682	980	1662	323	410	733	60	83	143	4	2	6	3061	3788	6849
PERCENT	9.4	10.1	9.8	8.3	10.1	9.3	11.8	13.6	12.8	6.0	7.2	6.6	13.8	3.3	6.7	9.2	10.3	9.8

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Dropout withdrawals are displayed by age and grade on Table 3.

The ages of pupils in some of the grades displayed on this table may seem inappropriate to the reader (i.e. - 20 and 21 year old 9th graders, etc.). The data have been researched, however, and are valid. In most instances, these are Asian pupils, new to the country, who were admitted in the system at a later age than the average pupil in the same grade.

The fewest number of dropouts occurred among 15 year olds (27) and among seventh graders (22).

The data indicate that 17 year old tenth graders dropped out most frequently (1,687). They accounted for about one quarter of all dropouts in 1985-86. They represent 66% of all tenth grade dropouts and 47% of all 17 year old dropouts. Tenth graders equaled 37% of all dropouts, while 17 year old dropouts were equal to 53% of the total dropout population. Seventeen year olds dropped out most often even among the Ungraded (91) and Special Education (42) dropout populations, equaling 53% and 34% of these dropout populations, respectively. One explanation for why so many dropouts occur at age 17 is that the compulsory school age law requires children to attend school until the age of seventeen.

Eighteen year olds were next in dropout frequency with 1,791 (26%) reported as having dropped out. Within grade, 11th graders and 12th graders dropped out next most frequently. There were 1,685 eleventh grade dropouts which is equal to 25% of all dropouts. Of the 1985-86 12th grade class, 1,216 dropped out. This was equal to 18% of the total number that dropped out of school that year.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 3. DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS BY AGE AND GRADE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

AGES	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12	UNGRADED	SPECIAL EDUCATION	ALL GRADES
15	2	6	12	6				1	27
16	5	23	115	87	23		10	6	269
17	14	64	758	1687	681	269	91	42	3606
18	1	3	81	551	597	488	47	23	1791
19			13	158	290	322	11	15	809
20			6	36	67	112	7	10	238
21			6	20	27	25	3	28	109
TOTALS	22	96	991	2545	1685	1216	169	125	6849

Dropout withdrawals are pictured by race and sex on Table 4 and are compared as a percentage of enrollment. The enrollment used consists of all pupils actively enrolled during 1985-86 in grades 7-12 who are 15 through 21 years old. This produces an overall dropout rate of 9.8 percent.

The enrollment percentages of the races for 1985-86 (Blacks - 63%, Whites - 26%, Hispanics - 8%, Asians - 3%, and American Indians - .1%) were similar to the dropout rates by racial groups in that year.

The total number of female dropouts was 3,061, producing a female dropout rate of 9.2%, slightly less than the total dropout rate. The Hispanic female dropout rate was 11.8%, over two and a half percent greater than the overall female dropout rate.

The overall dropout rate for males was 10.3%. A total of 3,788 males dropped out of the schools in 1985-86. The Hispanic male dropout rate was 3% greater than the overall male dropout rate.

The total Hispanic dropout rate for 1985-86 was 3% greater than the 9.8% overall dropout rate for all races, as was the American Indian dropout rate. The Asian dropout rate was 3% lower than the 9.8% dropout rate, while White and Black dropout rates were about the same as the overall dropout rate.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 4. DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS BY RACE AND SEX (AGES 15 THRU 21 AND GRADES 7 THRU 12 OR EQUIVALENT) - 1985-86

	FEMALE					MALE					TOTAL		
	ENROLL-MENT	PER-CENT	DROP-OUTS	PER-CENT	PER-CENT	ENROLL-MENT	PER-CENT	DROP-OUTS	PER-CENT	PER-CENT	ENROLL-MENT	DROP-OUTS	PER-CENT
	FE	FE/TE	FD	FD/TD	FD/FE	ME	ME/TE	MD	MD/TD	MD/ME	TE	TD	TD/TE
CITY TOTALS													
BLACK	21275	48.2	1992	46.3	9.4	22838	51.8	2313	53.7	10.1	44113	4305	9.8
WHITE	8207	45.8	682	41.0	8.3	9726	54.2	980	59.0	10.1	17933	1662	9.3
HISPANIC	2727	47.5	323	44.1	11.8	3009	52.5	410	55.9	13.6	5736	733	12.8
ASIAN	1002	46.5	60	42.0	6.0	1151	53.5	83	58.0	7.2	2153	143	6.6
AM IND/ALASKAN	29	32.2	4	66.7	13.8	61	67.8	2	33.3	3.3	90	6	6.7
TOTALS	33240	47.5	3061	44.7	9.2	36785	52.5	3788	55.3	10.3	70025	6849	9.8

FE = FEMALE ENROLLMENT ME = MALE ENROLLMENT TE = TOTAL ENROLLMENT
FD = FEMALE DROPOUTS MD = MALE DROPOUTS TD = TOTALS DROPOUTS

On Table 5, the 6,849 1985-86 dropouts are displayed within grade by reason.

The data show that the reason most often cited for school dropout withdrawals was code 03H "Other - not employed, not needed at home" which is listed under the "Over Compulsory School Age" category. A total of 6,228 pupils left school for that reason. This was 91% of all of the dropouts that occurred. Figure 1, on page 12, graphically displays the relationship of Code 03H dropouts to all other types of school dropouts.

Even when viewed individually by grade, code 03H is the one most frequently used. Ninety-one percent of all 10th graders dropped out for this reason, as did 94% of the 11th grade dropouts, 96% of all 12th grade dropouts, 85% of all Ungraded (UG) dropouts, and 85% of all Special Education dropouts.

The second highest number of dropouts within reason was code 03E, "Probable Employment". There were 172 dropouts for this reason; only 2.5% of the total number of dropouts.

Within grade, 10th graders accounted for 37% of all dropouts with 2,545 of the total 6,849 dropouts. Eleventh and twelfth graders accounted for 27% and 18% of all dropouts, respectively. A total of 5,446 10th, 11th, and 12th graders dropped out of school, comprising 79.5% of all of the dropouts in 1985-86.

According to the data, only six girls were dropouts due to pregnancy. In view of the known incidence of pregnancy among teenage girls, gathered by the Philadelphia Public Health Department and the School District's Comprehensive Services for School Age Parents Program and by the Philadelphia Inquirer, this number would seem inappropriately low. It is likely that some of the pregnant teenage girls dropped out of school under other dropout categories. (See footnote for Withdrawal Table 4, page 23).

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

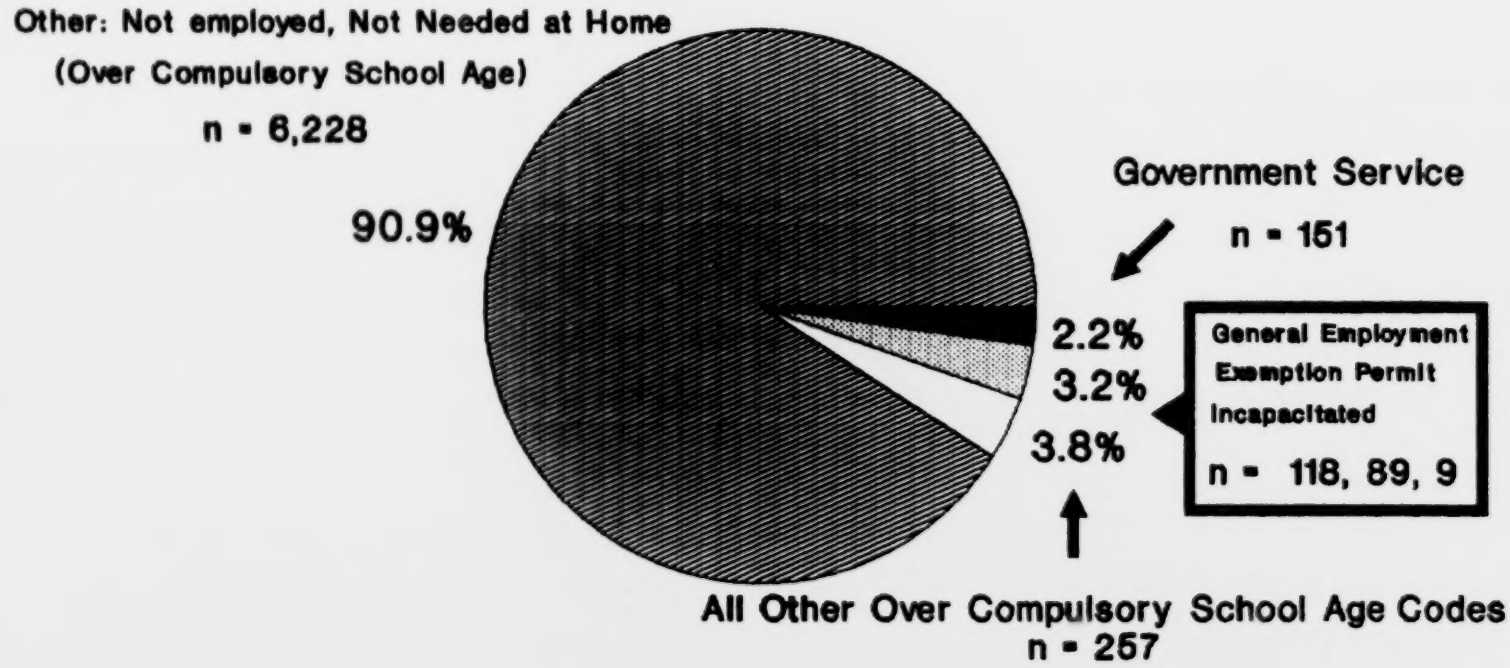
TABLE 5. DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS BY REASON AND GRADE (AGES 15 THRU 21) - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12	UNGRADED	SPECIAL EDUCATION	ALL GRADES
1. GOVERNMENT SERVICE									
ENLISTED IN ARMED SERVICES (01C)				6	4	4			14
ENROLLED IN JOB CORPS (01E)	1	9	59	49	13	1	2	3	137
2. OVER COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE									
INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03B)		1	2	1		1			5
VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03C)	1	4	7	25	9	4	1	3	54
MARRIAGE - OVER AGE 17 (03D)				1			1		2
PROBABLE EMPLOYMENT (03E)	1	5	29	56	38	30	6	7	172
NEEDED AT HOME (03F)			1	9	6	3	5		24
OTHER - NOT EMPLOYED, NOT NEEDED AT HOME (03H)	13	56	815	2331	1591	1172	144	106	6228
3. GENERAL EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATE									
VERIFIED EMPLOYMENT (04A)	3	8	44	34	20	1	8		118
4. EXEMPTION PERMIT ISSUED (DOM OR FARM)									
MARRIAGE - UNDER AGE 17 (05A)		1	2	5			1	1	10
OWN HOME - NOT MARRIED (05B)	3	12	31	25	3		1	4	79
OUTSIDE HOME (05C)									0
5. PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED									
PREGNANCY - W/O DOCTOR CERT (03G)			1	3	1			1	6
CITY TOTALS	22	96	991	2545	1685	1216	169	125	6049

Figure 1
REASONS FOR DROPPING OUT
1985-1986

TOTAL DROPOUTS = 6,852



Dropouts are displayed by age as a percentage of enrollment on Table 6. Enrollment used on this table, as on Table 4, is the total number of pupils ages 15 through 21 who are in grades 7-12, UG, or Special Education equivalent.

About fifty-three percent (3,606) of all those who dropped out were 17 years old. This equaled 18.5% of all seventeen year olds who could have dropped out of school. Twenty-six percent of the 1985-86 dropouts (1,791) were eighteen years old. That was equal to 17% of the enrollment for that age group. Approximately twenty-five percent of all nineteen year olds dropped out, while 24% of all 20 year olds and 32% of all 21 year olds dropped out of school. Nineteen year old dropouts accounted for nearly 12% of all dropouts; twenty year olds accounted for only about 3% of all dropouts.

It is important to note that fifteen and sixteen year olds can only drop out in certain cases. Fifteen year olds can drop out only under codes Marriage under 17 years (05A), Own Home, Not Married (05B), and Outside Home (05C). Sixteen year olds can drop out for (05A), (05B), and (05C), but also can drop out for Enrolled in Job Corps (01E), and Verified Employment (04A).

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 6. DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS BY AGE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

AGES	ENROLLMENT	DROPOUTS	------ DROPOUTS AS PERCENT ------ OF ENROLLMENT	OF TOTAL DROPOUTS
15	17475	27	.2	.4
16	18159	269	1.5	3.9
17	19444	3606	18.5	52.7
18	10369	1791	17.3	26.1
19	3271	809	24.7	11.8
20	970	238	24.5	3.5
21	337	109	32.3	1.6
TOTALS	70025	6849	9.8	100.0

IV. WITHDRAWAL TABLES

Table 1 shows all of the Philadelphia Public School withdrawals that occurred during the 1985-86 school year by race and sex. All pupils leaving the School District are assigned withdrawal codes. The withdrawals are displayed in total and are broken out in categories of non-dropout withdrawals, dropout withdrawals and graduation withdrawals. Non-dropout withdrawals are school withdrawals that have withdrawal codes that are not identified as dropouts or graduates. They may occur in any grade and at any age. (See Glossary in Appendices for other definitions).

The total number of withdrawals from the Philadelphia Public Schools in 1985-86 was 32,382 pupils. This number represents 15.6% of the total enrollment that year. (The total enrollment figure of 206,552 pupils includes all pupils who were active on roll during the 1985-86 school year.) There were over twice as many non-dropout withdrawals (16,096) as there were dropout withdrawals (6,849). Although males outnumber females in the system, more females graduated in 1986 than did males. Males accounted for more of the non-dropout and dropout categories than did females.

Figure 2 on page 16 shows the relationship of the three withdrawal sub-catagories (graduates, dropouts and non-dropouts) by number and percent. Figure 3 on page 17 displays the racial breakdowns within each of the three withdrawal sub-categories of graduates, dropouts and non-dropouts.

Of the total Black withdrawals, 37.4% were for non-dropout reasons, 26.9% were dropouts and 35.7% were graduates. Non-dropout White pupils accounted for 63% of all White withdrawals. White dropouts constituted 13.5% of all White withdrawals and 23% of all White withdrawals were due to graduation. Fifty-eight point four percent (58.4%) or 1,828 of all Hispanic withdrawals were non-dropout withdrawals, 23.4% of the total Hispanic withdrawals were dropouts, while 18% of all Hispanic withdrawals were graduates. Of all Asian withdrawals, 53.8% were non-dropouts, 15.9% of them were dropouts, and 30% were graduates. American Indian/Alaskan dropouts were 9.5% of their total withdrawals, 60.3% were non-dropout withdrawals and 30% graduated. (Because the total enrollment (252) and withdrawals (63) of American Indians are so small, care must be used in the interpretation of the data.)

Within the total withdrawals category (which includes graduates), 16,006 Blacks withdrew from the system. This number represents 12.4% of all Blacks in the schools during 1985-86. Twelve thousand, two hundred and eighty-three (12,283) or 22.9% of all Whites withdrew, while Hispanics accounted for 3,131 of all withdrawals or 17.1% of all Hispanics. Fifteen point eight percent (15.8%) of all Asian pupils (899) withdrew from schools in 1985-86. Of the 252 American Indians enrolled in the schools, 63 of them, or 25%, withdrew from the Philadelphia School System. (See Figure 4, page 18.)

All male and female total withdrawal numbers and percentages were similar except in the case of American Indians. Twenty-two point seven percent (22.7%) of all American Indian females withdrew, while 26% of all American Indian males withdrew from the Philadelphia Schools.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 1. WITHDRAWALS BY RACE AND SEX - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

	NON-DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS			DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS			GRADUATION WITHDRAWALS			TOTAL WITHDRAWALS		TOTAL ENROLLMENT	
	NUMBER	PER-CENT	PER-CENT	NUMBER	PER-CENT	PER-CENT	NUMBER	PER-CENT	PER-CENT	NUMBER	PER-CENT	NUMBER	PER-CENT
	TN	TN/TW	TN/TRE	TD	TD/TW	TD/TRE	TG	TG/TW	TG/TRE	TW	TW/TRE	TRE	TRE/TE
BLACK													
FEMALE	2652	34.1	4.2	1992	25.6	3.2	3141	40.3	5.0	7785	12.4	62833	63.1
MALE	3342	40.7	5.1	2313	28.1	3.5	2566	31.2	3.9	8221	12.5	65744	61.4
TOTAL	5994	37.4	4.7	4305	26.9	3.3	5707	35.7	4.4	16006	12.4	128577	62.2
WHITE													
FEMALE	3701	63.7	14.7	682	11.7	2.7	1424	24.5	5.7	5807	23.1	25138	25.3
MALE	4051	62.6	14.2	980	15.1	3.4	1445	22.3	5.1	6476	22.7	28587	26.7
TOTAL	7752	63.1	14.4	1662	13.5	3.1	2869	23.4	5.3	12283	22.9	53725	26.0
HISPANIC													
FEMALE	889	57.9	10.1	323	21.0	3.7	323	21.0	3.7	1535	17.4	8839	8.9
MALE	939	58.8	9.9	410	25.7	4.3	247	15.5	2.6	1596	16.8	9477	8.9
TOTAL	1828	58.4	10.0	733	23.4	4.0	570	18.2	3.1	3131	17.1	18316	8.9
ASIAN													
FEMALE	221	53.6	8.3	60	14.6	2.3	131	31.8	4.9	412	15.5	2653	2.7
MALE	263	54.0	8.7	83	17.0	2.7	141	29.0	4.7	487	16.1	3029	2.8
TOTAL	484	53.8	8.5	143	15.9	2.5	272	30.3	4.8	899	15.8	5682	2.8
AM IND/ALASKAN													
FEMALE	9	52.9	12.0	4	23.5	5.3	4	23.5	5.3	17	22.7	75	.1
MALE	29	63.0	16.4	2	4.3	1.1	15	32.6	8.5	46	26.0	177	.2
TOTAL	38	60.3	15.1	6	9.5	2.4	19	30.2	7.5	63	25.0	252	.1
TOTALS													
FEMALE	7472	48.0	7.5	3061	19.7	3.1	5023	32.3	5.0	15556	15.6	99538	100.0
MALE	8624	51.3	8.1	3788	22.5	3.5	4414	26.2	4.1	16826	15.7	107014	100.0
TOTAL	16096	49.7	7.8	6849	21.2	3.3	9437	29.1	4.6	32382	15.7	206552	100.0

TN = TOTAL NON-DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS
TD = TOTAL DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS
TG = TOTAL GRADUATION WITHDRAWALS
TW = TOTAL WITHDRAWALS
TRE = TOTAL RACE ENROLLMENT
TE = TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Figure 2
WITHDRAWALS BY CATEGORY
1985-1986
Total Withdrawals = 32,382

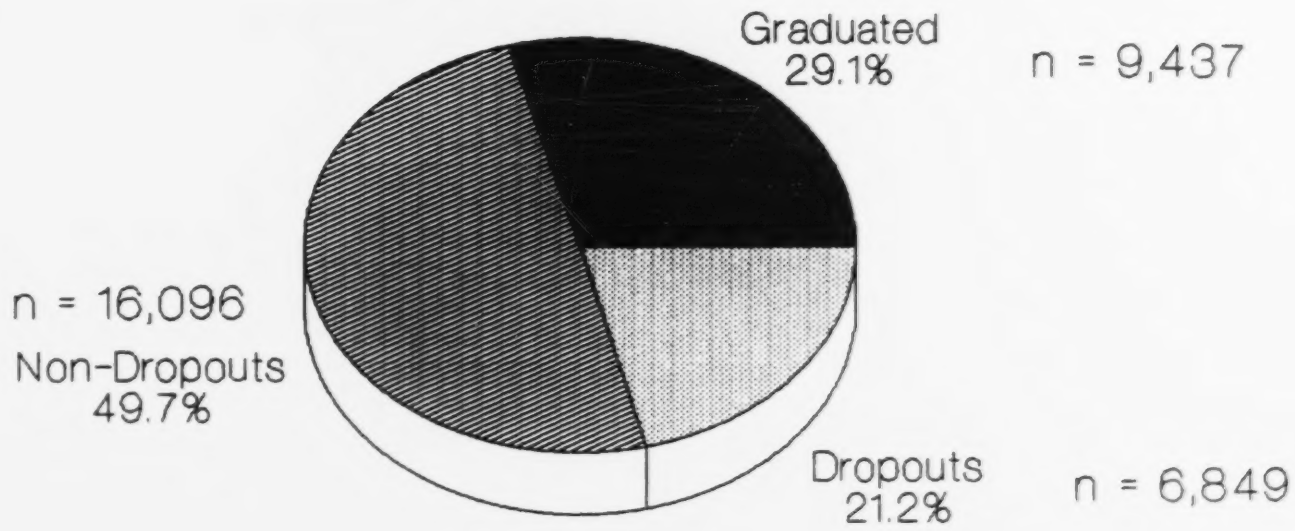
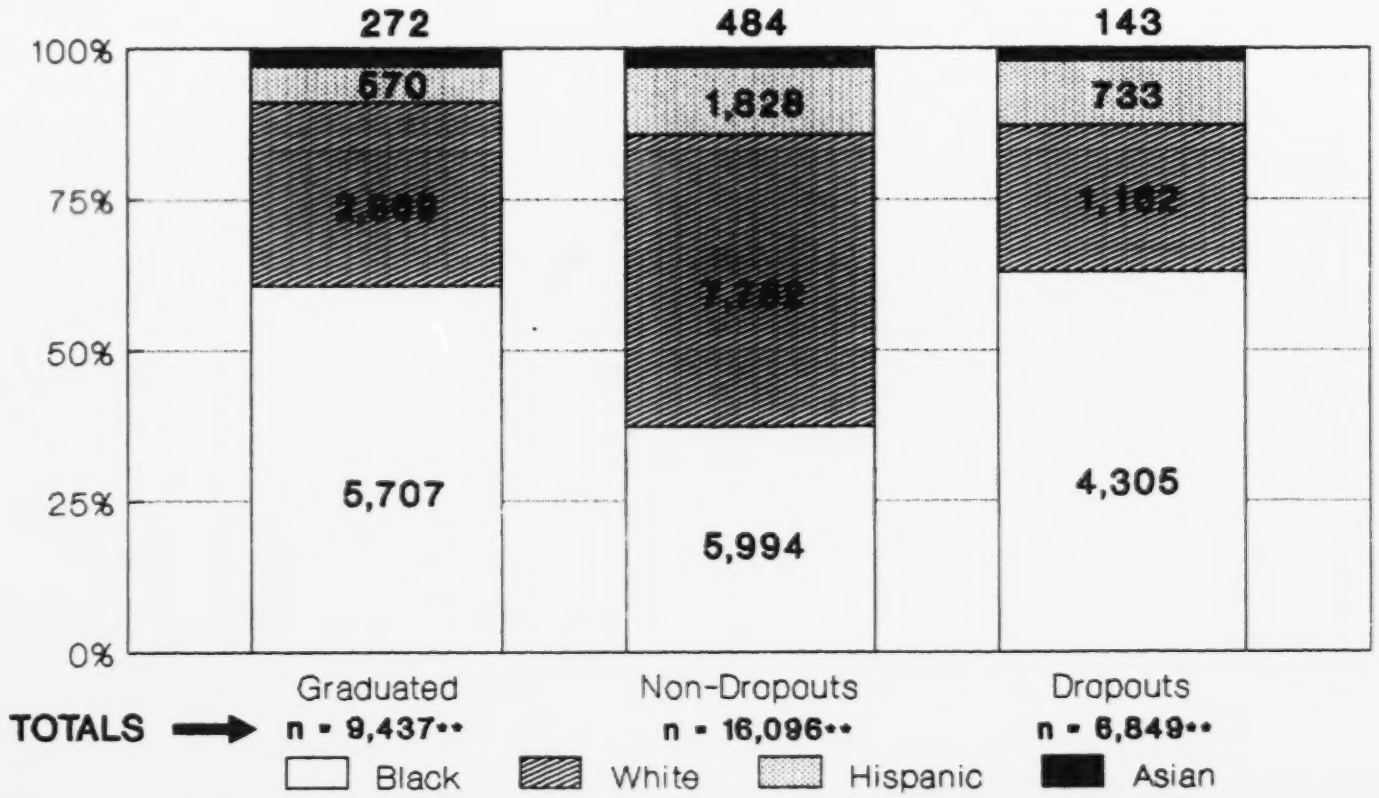


Figure 3
WITHDRAWAL CATEGORIES BY RACE*
1985-1986

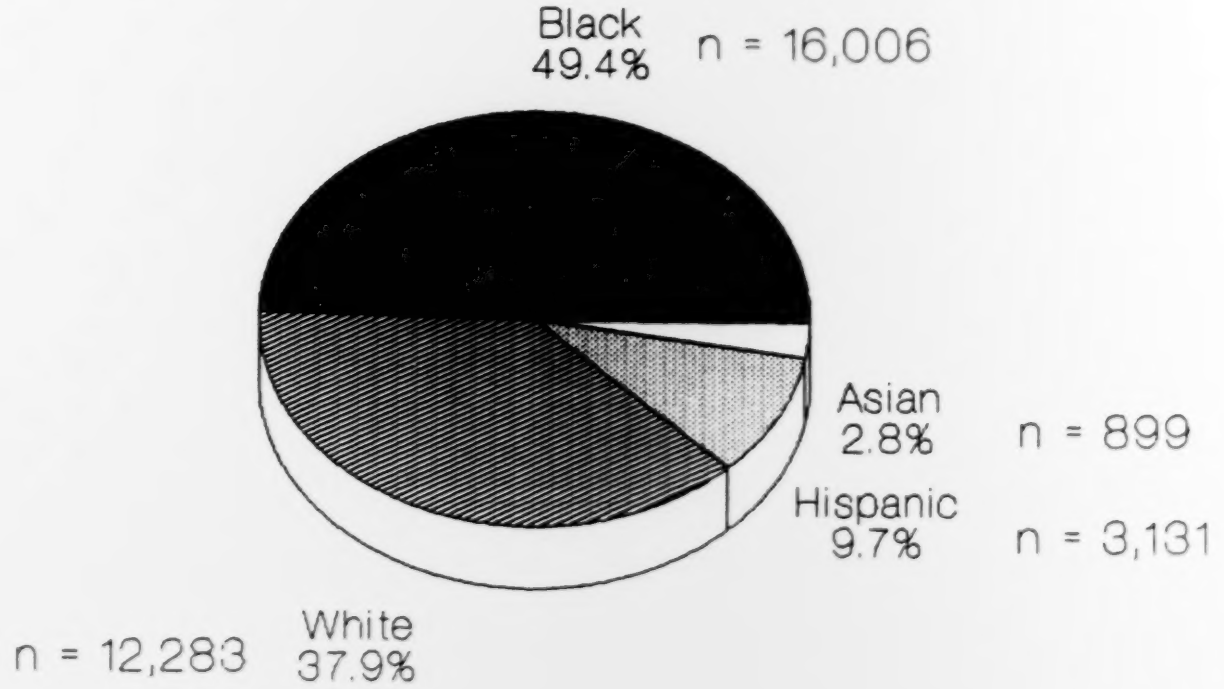


*Sixty-three American Indians could not be shown on the graph.

**If numbers in bars are added, they won't match totals since American Indians are included in the totals.

Figure 4
TOTAL 1985-1986 WITHDRAWALS BY RACE*

Total Withdrawals = 32,382**



*Included in withdrawals are dropouts, non-dropouts, and graduates.

**Total included 63 American Indians who can not be shown on the graph.

Withdrawals of all types are displayed on Table 2 by reason, race, and grade. Among the non-dropout withdrawals category, only graduates, pupils moving from Philadelphia, and those withdrawals occurring when pupils transfer to Philadelphia private or parochial schools are separated. It should be noted that pupils enrolled in General Education Development (GED) Preparation are beyond compulsory school age and must drop out of school before entering the GED program. They cannot be identified by the School District attendance accounting department and are, therefore, included in this report as dropouts and not as pupils who withdrew from the school system to enroll elsewhere. The other types of non-dropout withdrawals are combined under the heading of "All Other Withdrawals". The non-dropout withdrawals that occurred in these categories are displayed separately on Tables 4, 5, and 6.

Whites left the Philadelphia public schools to enter Philadelphia parochial or private schools more frequently than any other racial group. Over three times as many Whites (4,877) than Blacks (1,591) withdrew from Philadelphia public schools to enter private or parochial schools. The vast majority of White pupils leaving to enter parochial or private schools occurred during kindergarten and first grade. (Parochial and private schools do not have kindergartens.) Of the 2,020 kindergarten pupils leaving for this reason, 1,805 (89%) were White; 1,796 (84%) of the 2,142 first graders leaving for this reason were White. This accounts for over two-thirds of the total number of White pupils leaving for this reason. It is important to note that the bulk of the 2,142 pupils shown as leaving the first grade to enter private or parochial school (01A) actually left at the end of kindergarten. Since the parents did not advise their childrens' schools that their children were not returning in September, the pupils' records identified them as first graders and they were, therefore, dropped in September as first graders.

Between the second and the eighth grades, Blacks left the Philadelphia schools more frequently than Whites did to enter Philadelphia private or parochial schools, but Whites left the Philadelphia schools again more frequently than any other group from ninth through twelfth grades.

Surprisingly, more Blacks (3,101 - 44%) withdrew from the schools because they moved from Philadelphia than any other racial group. Whites (2,321 - 33%) withdrew second most frequently within this category, with Hispanics (1,282 - 18%) leaving third most frequently.

Over one-half (1,302) of the 2,184 remaining non-dropout withdrawals were Blacks. Nearly a third (9,437) of all withdrawals were due to graduation, while less than one-fourth (6,849) of all withdrawals were dropouts. (See Figure 2, page 16.) All of these categories are discussed in greater detail in earlier sections in this report.

Approximately three-fifths (18,999) of all withdrawals occurred in the 9th through 12th grades. Ten thousand and seven (10,007), or one-third of the total 1985-86 withdrawals, were twelfth graders. Nine thousand four hundred and thirty-seven (9,437) of them were graduates.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 2. WITHDRAWALS BY REASON, RACE AND GRADE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

REASON/RACE	GRADE	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UG	SPEC	TOTAL
GRADUATED (00G)																	
BLACK													341	5105	210	51	5707
WHITE													72	2696	69	32	2869
HISPANIC													29	518	16	7	570
ASIAN													9	257	6		272
AM IND/ALASKAN														18		1	19
TOTALS		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	451	8594	301	91	9437
PHILA PAROCHIAL/PRIVATE SCH (01A)																	
BLACK		149	264	184	117	113	87	69	122	53	166	125	53	22	13	54	1591
WHITE		1805	1796	207	96	76	72	51	73	51	298	146	79	28	28	71	4877
HISPANIC		39	49	16	20	11	15	15	19	14	23	11	9	1		10	252
ASIAN		14	28	10	4	5	4	3	6	4	5	2		1	7	1	94
AM IND/ALASKAN		13	5							1	1					1	21
TOTALS		2020	2142	417	237	205	178	138	220	123	493	284	141	52	48	137	6835
MOVED FROM PHILA (02A)																	
BLACK		146	332	311	287	231	223	188	216	211	329	262	154	62	23	126	3101
WHITE		123	355	224	153	167	181	161	139	145	212	174	111	34	26	117	2321
HISPANIC		66	173	137	122	95	93	80	100	90	109	84	35	9	10	79	1282
ASIAN		15	35	20	16	28	23	30	35	18	38	35	17	11	31	8	360
AM IND/ALASKAN			4	4			1		1	1		2					13
TOTALS		350	899	696	578	521	521	459	491	469	688	557	317	116	90	325	7077
DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS																	
BLACK									12	69	655	1637	1063	746	63	60	4305
WHITE									7	22	233	530	408	335	92	35	1662
HISPANIC									3	5	87	335	161	102	10	30	733
ASIAN											15	41	53	31	3		143
AM IND/ALASKAN											1	2		2	1		6
TOTALS		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	96	991	2545	1685	1216	169	125	6849
ALL OTHER WITHDRAWALS																	
BLACK		200	48	38	17	24	18	23	90	131	287	238	65	23	9	91	1302
WHITE		87	26	12	13	8	11	17	32	35	97	66	17	3	11	115	554
HISPANIC		43	17	12	9	8	8	8	23	12	28	24	8	1	1	92	294
ASIAN		6	4		1		1		1	2	2	6		2		5	30
AM IND/ALASKAN		1					1				2						4
TOTALS		337	95	62	40	40	39	48	146	184	416	334	90	29	21	303	2184
TOTALS																	
BLACK		495	644	533	421	368	328	280	440	464	1437	2262	1676	5958	318	382	16006
WHITE		2015	2177	443	262	251	264	229	251	261	840	916	687	3096	226	365	12283
HISPANIC		148	239	165	151	114	116	103	145	121	247	454	242	631	37	218	3131
ASIAN		35	67	30	21	33	28	33	42	24	60	84	79	302	47	14	899
AM IND/ALASKAN		14	9	4			2		1	2	4	4		20	1	2	63
TOTALS		2707	3136	1175	855	766	738	645	879	872	2588	3720	2684	10007	629	981	32382

UG = UNGRADED SPEC = SPECIAL EDUCATION

Table 3 pictures the 1985-86 withdrawals by reason, race, and age.

Most of the withdrawals occurred at ages 5 to 7, and again, at ages 14 to 19 years. This is consistent with the data reported on Withdrawal Table 2 which indicated that most of the withdrawals occurred in kindergarten and first grade, and in the ninth through the twelfth grades.

White five and six year olds left the Philadelphia public schools most frequently to go to private or parochial schools in Philadelphia.

There is a substantial increase in the total number of pupils leaving the schools between ages sixteen and and seventeen. This is largely due to graduation and dropout withdrawals. Compulsory school age ends at seventeen and many pupils choose to leave school at this time. Parental consent is still needed, however, and the parent must be notified in writing and have ten days to respond prior to the dropout process being completed.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 3. WITHDRAWALS BY REASON, RACE AND AGE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

REASON/RACE	AGE = UNDER 5	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	TOTAL
GRADUATED (00G)																			
BLACK												1	51	2419	2447	580	155	54	5707
WHITE												1	24	1369	1229	197	28	21	2869
HISPANIC													4	196	254	98	16	2	570
ASIAN													5	49	91	76	34	17	272
AM IND/ALASKAN													2	8	7	2			19
TOTALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	86	4041	4028	953	233	94	9437
PHILA PAROCHIAL/PRIVATE SCH (01A)																			
BLACK	9	160	271	160	127	108	86	98	80	90	93	105	107	70	21	5		1	1591
WHITE	7	1568	2083	149	114	86	73	63	70	98	191	170	125	63	16	1			4877
HISPANIC		36	49	20	20	14	13	20	18	15	16	10	11	8	1		1		252
ASIAN	1	16	31	6	6	4	5	5	5	4	3	5	2					1	94
AM IND/ALASKAN		9	9			1					1		1						21
TOTALS	17	1789	2443	335	267	213	177	186	173	207	304	290	246	141	38	6	1	2	6835
MOVED FROM PHILA (02A)																			
BLACK	14	172	278	270	279	251	223	250	201	222	259	261	253	116	40	10	2		3101
WHITE	10	183	299	197	171	184	175	162	149	152	179	196	174	73	14	2	1		2321
HISPANIC	8	71	116	124	124	112	92	97	99	87	107	109	91	36	7	1	1		1282
ASIAN		18	34	24	16	20	33	27	33	24	28	28	35	15	15	8	1	1	360
AM IND/ALASKAN		2	3	2	1		1			1	1	1		1					13
TOTALS	32	446	730	617	591	567	524	536	482	486	574	595	553	241	76	21	5	1	7077
DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS																			
BLACK												18	141	2098	1209	615	166	58	4305
WHITE												4	118	1047	363	94	23	13	1662
HISPANIC												5	10	410	187	80	25	16	733
ASIAN														45	32	20	24	22	143
AM IND/ALASKAN														6					6
TOTALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	269	3606	1791	809	238	109	6849
ALL OTHER WITHDRAWALS																			
BLACK	38	165	50	36	31	24	22	21	43	71	150	228	280	117	22	2	2		1302
WHITE	14	67	38	25	14	15	17	14	23	54	64	91	98	17	1	1	1		554
HISPANIC	14	41	19	16	15	10	10	16	13	25	23	32	37	14	8		1		294
ASIAN	1	5	5	2					2	3	3	2	3	2	2				30
AM IND/ALASKAN		1						1			1		1						4
TOTALS	67	279	112	79	60	49	49	52	81	153	241	353	419	150	33	3	4	0	2184
TOTALS																			
BLACK	61	497	599	466	437	383	331	369	324	383	502	613	832	4820	3739	1212	325	113	16006
WHITE	31	1818	2420	371	299	285	265	239	242	304	434	462	539	2569	1623	295	53	34	12283
HISPANIC	22	148	184	160	159	136	115	133	130	127	146	156	153	664	457	179	44	18	3131
ASIAN	2	39	70	32	22	24	38	32	40	31	34	35	45	111	140	104	59	41	899
AM IND/ALASKAN		12	12	2	1	1	1	1		1	3	1	4	15	7	2			63
TOTALS	116	2514	3285	1031	918	829	750	774	736	846	1119	1267	1573	8179	5966	1792	481	206	32382

In Table 4 all withdrawals are again shown by reason and grade. On this table, however all reasons are shown individually within the three major withdrawal categories of non-dropouts, dropouts, and graduates.

There is a large increase in withdrawals between the 8th and 9th grades under the three "Enrolled Elsewhere" categories (01A, 01B, 01D). These are verified transfers of pupils to other educational institutions. Over twice as many pupils left in each of the three categories in the ninth grade than in the eighth grade. The number of pupils withdrawing for these reasons steadily decreases from 10th grade through 12th grade.

Within the dropout category, the largest number of dropouts (6,228) appears within the "Other (03H)" category. This is a catch-all category that makes it difficult to determine the actual reasons for pupil withdrawals. Most of those dropouts occurred in 10th grade (2,331), with 11th grade (1,591) and 12th grade (1,172) dropouts contributing significantly to the total number of dropouts in that category. Those three grades accounted for almost eight out of ten of all of the dropouts that are shown in Category 03H.

Only six (6) females withdrew using the two pregnancy codes "With a doctor's certificate (03G)" or "Without a doctor's certificate (10A)". Because the current pregnancy rate among teenage females is extremely high , it can be speculated that many more pregnant females may have left the system under other withdrawal categories (possibly 03H), may have decided to return to school following the birth of their children, or may never have dropped out because of their participation in the School District's Comprehensive Services for School Age Parents Program.

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[1] The State School Code stipulates that pregnancy alone is not a justifiable reason for schools to drop girls from school rolls. Several indicators, however, suggest a substantially higher number of teenage girls are dropping out of school for pregnancy and/or child care reasons than are being reported under the two pregnancy dropout codes. The Philadelphia Department of Health Vital Statistics Report, 1983 stated that 4,652 births were reported among 15-19 year old females and 161 births were reported among girls under the age of 15. During the 1985-86 school year, 823 referrals were made for attendance in the School District's Comprehensive Services for School Age Parents; three hundred and fifty-five (355) pregnant students were enrolled in the classes provided. One hundred and fifty-four (154) females between 17 and 21 years of age tested for entry into the School District's General Education Development (GED) classes and an average of 113 17-19 year old females were enrolled in the GED classes during 1985-86. Approximately 98% of these girls were already parents and the other 2% were pregnant. Many of these girls had not attended school for one to two years. A 1985 study was conducted by the Alan Guttmacher Institute in New York City and was published in Family Planning Perspectives, Volume 17, Number 2, March/April 1985. The study, called "Teenage Pregnancy in Developed Countries: Detriments and Policy Implications", stated that teenage pregnancy and parenthood are the major causes for most females dropping out of high school in the United States. The report further states that this is recognized as a major problem for the schools. Using these same sources, Margaret O. Kirk reported the following in an an article called "Teen Mothers, Young and Pregnant" in The Philadelphia Inquirer Sunday Magazine Section on March 15, 1987: "...nearly half of all teenage mothers are 17 or younger. In Philadelphia, there are about 100,000 teenage females, and in 1985, more than 10,000 of them got pregnant. About one in nine. Half had abortions or miscarried; nearly 5,000 gave birth. About 2,070 of those were 17 or younger .... in 1985, for the first time in nearly 15 years, statistics showed an increase in teen births in all categories, from age 12 to age 19. In 1985, 19% of all women who gave birth in Philadelphia were teenagers. Now, Philadelphia's birthrate is 40% higher than the rest of the nation's for girls 17 and younger, 30% higher overall."

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 4. WITHDRAWALS BY REASON AND GRADE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UG	SPEC	TOTAL
A. GRADUATED (00G)												451	8594	301	91	9437
B. WITHDRAWALS/NON-DROPS																
1. ENROLLED ELSEWHERE																
PHILA PAROC/PRIV SCH (01A)	2020	2142	417	237	205	178	138	220	123	493	284	141	52	48	137	6835
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (01B)				1			9	59	90	200	176	30	9	8	53	635
PARENT IN PHILA/OFF. ROLL (01D)	24	42	28	22	25	22	24	50	46	121	58	26	10	5	33	536
2. MOVED FROM DISTRICT																
MOVED FROM PHILA (02A)	350	899	696	578	521	521	459	491	469	688	557	317	116	90	325	7077
MIGRANTS (02B)									1							1
RUNAWAY (02C)								7	10	20	21	3		4	5	70
WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN (02D)	14	22	21	10	10	11	12	23	29	55	51	15	2	4	6	285
NON-RESIDENT HOSP ROLLS (02E)		1											1		163	165
3. DECEASED (06A)		6	7	3	3	6	3	6	5	7	14	7	5		7	79
4. UNDER COMPULSORY SCH AGE (08A)	298	21													26	345
5. PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED																
PREGNANCY - DOCTOR CERT (10A)																0
EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE (10B)	1	3	6	4	1			1	3	4	2	1	1		10	37
OTHER (10C)					1					9	12	8	1			31
C. WITHDRAWALS/DROPOUTS																
1. GOVERNMENT SERVICES																
ENLISTED IN ARMED SERV (01C)											6	4	4			14
ENROLLED IN JOB CORPS (01E)								1	9	59	49	13	1	2	3	137
2. OVER COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE																
INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03B)									1	2	1		1			5
VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03C)								1	4	7	25	9	4	1	3	54
MARRIAGE (03D)											1			1		2
PROBABLE EMPLOYMENT (03E)								1	5	29	56	38	30	6	7	172
NEEDED AT HOME (03F)										1	9	6	3	5		24
OTHER (03H)								13	56	815	2331	1591	1172	144	106	6228
3. EMPLOYMENT CERT/EXEMPT PERMIT																
VERIFIED EMPLOYMENT (04A)								3	8	44	34	20	1	8		118
MARRIAGE - UNDER 17 YRS (05A)									1	2	5			1	1	10
OWN HOME, NOT MARRIED (05B)								3	12	31	25	3		1	4	79
OUTSIDE HOME (05C)																0
4. PREGNANCY W/O DOCTOR CERT (03G)										1	3	1			1	6
TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	2707	3136	1175	855	766	738	645	879	872	2588	3720	2684	10007	629	981	32382

UG = UNGRADED SPEC = SPECIAL EDUCATION

57 58

Table 5 provides another overview of all withdrawals by reason, race and sex. As in Table 4, all withdrawal reasons are displayed separately.

Over three-fifths of all graduating students were Black in 1985-86, while White pupils accounted for nearly one-third of the total graduates.

Blacks (3,944) accounted for approximately seven out of ten of the pupils in the 03H category, with Whites (1,449) and Hispanics (693) next highest in numbers in that category.

Forty-nine percent of all 1985-86 withdrawals were Black, 38% were White, 10% were Hispanic, 3% were Asian and .2% were American Indian. More females (48) were coded as runaways (02C) than males (22). Among the 79 pupils coded as being deceased (06A), 61% of them (48) were Blacks and 70% were males (55).

Of the 570 male pupils who withdrew under code 01B to enter correctional institutions, 451 were Black males. Fifty-five of the 65 females withdrawing for this reason were Black. Together they represent 80% of the total 635. Black males equal 79% of the male population in this category and Black females equal 85% of all females in this category. [2]The percentages in this category far exceed the 63.5% Black enrollment within the School District in 1985-86[2]. The pupils who withdrew from school to enter the correctional institutions continue their educations while incarcerated and are, therefore, non-dropout withdrawals from the Public School System.

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[2] It should be noted that these withdrawals (01B) occur as a direct result of the juvenile criminal justice system and do not represent an area over which the School District can exercise any control.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 5. WITHDRAWALS BY REASON, RACE AND SEX - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

	BLACK		WHITE		HISPANIC		ASIAN		AM IND/ALASKAN		TOTALS	
	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE
A. GRADUATED (00G)	3141	2566	1424	1445	323	247	131	141	4	15	5023	4414
B. WITHDRAWALS/NON-DROPS												
1. ENROLLED ELSEWHERE												
PHILA PAROC/PRIV SCH (01A)	755	836	2395	2482	133	119	44	50	6	15	3333	3502
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (01B)	55	451	7	91	3	27		1			65	570
PARENT IN PHILA/OFF. ROLL (01D)	127	194	67	111	16	10	3	5	1	2	214	322
2. MOVED FROM DISTRICT												
MOVED FROM PHILA (02A)	1466	1635	1104	1217	626	656	165	195	1	12	3362	3715
MIGRANTS (02B)	1										1	0
RUNAWAY (02C)	28	10	15	10	5	2					48	22
WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN (02D)	66	60	33	35	41	41	4	4	1		145	140
NON-RESIDENT HOSP ROLLS (02E)	5	5	36	47	36	32	1	3			78	87
3. DECEASED (06A)	18	30	5	12	1	11		2			24	55
4. UNDER COMPULSORY SCH AGE (08A)	119	99	31	37	21	31	4	3			175	170
5. PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED												
PREGNANCY - DOCTOR CERT (10A)											0	0
EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE (10B)	8	16	6	6		1					14	23
OTHER (10C)	4	6	2	3	7	9					13	18
C. WITHDRAWALS/DROPOUTS												
1. GOVERNMENT SERVICES												
ENLISTED IN ARMED SERV (01C)	1	7		6							1	13
ENROLLED IN JOB CORPS (01E)	47	81	2	4		3					49	88
2. OVER COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE												
INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03B)	2	3									2	3
VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03C)	13	27	4	5	4	1					21	33
MARRIAGE (03D)	1		1								2	0
PROBABLE EMPLOYMENT (03E)	26	54	25	43	1	16	2	5			54	118
NEEDED AT HOME (03F)	21	1	1		1						23	1
OTHER (03H)	1812	2132	508	861	304	309	58	78	4	2	2766	3462
3. EMPLOYMENT CERT/EXEMPT PERMIT												
VERIFIED EMPLOYMENT (04A)	5	7	46	59		1					51	67
MARRIAGE - UNDER 17 YRS (05A)	5		3	2							8	2
OWN HOME, NOT MARRIED (05B)	55	1	12		11						78	1
OUTSIDE HOME (05C)											0	0
4. PREGNANCY W/O DOCTOR CERT (03G)	4				2						6	0
TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	7785	8221	5807	6476	1535	1596	412	487	17	46	15556	16826

All withdrawals are displayed by reason and age in Table 6.

Of the 6,228 pupils who left the system under category 03H (Other), 3,392 were 17 years old and 1,724 were 18 years old. Seventeen year olds represent 54% of the total number in this category, while 18 year olds accounted for 28% of the total. Together they represent 82% of the total number of pupils who withdrew for this reason.

Seventeen year olds (8,179) equaled 25% of all withdrawals and eighteen year olds (5,966) equaled 18% of all withdrawals. Together, seventeen and eighteen year olds accounted for 44% (14,145) of all withdrawals from the public school system in 1985-86. Although this may, at first glance, seem unusually high, it is important to note that of the total number of seventeen and eighteen year old withdrawals, 57% of them were graduates. Seventeen year old graduates were 49% of all 17 year old withdrawals; and 18 year old graduates were 67% of all 18 year old withdrawals.

In relation to the total number of withdrawals (32,382) occurring in 1985-86, 12.5% were seventeen year old graduates and 12% were 18 year old graduates. A quarter (25%) of all withdrawals were 17 and 18 year old graduates.

About 18% of all withdrawals were five and six year olds (5,799). This is consistent with the findings on previous tables.

The majority of all other pupils leaving the system, left to enroll elsewhere or because they moved from the District.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 6. WITHDRAWALS BY REASON AND AGE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

AGE	UNDER 5	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	TOTAL
A. GRADUATED (00G)												2	86	4041	4028	953	233	94	9437
B. WITHDRAWALS/NON-DROPS																			
1. ENROLLED ELSEWHERE																			
PHILA PAROC/PRIV SCH (01A)	17	1789	2443	335	267	213	177	186	173	207	304	290	246	141	38	6	1	2	6835
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (01B)							1	1	12	47	102	177	191	90	12	1	1		635
PARENT IN PHILA/OFF. ROLL (01D)	1	24	41	29	26	26	23	28	36	52	78	71	70	22	7	1	1		536
2. MOVED FROM DISTRICT																			
MOVED FROM PHILA (02A)	32	446	730	617	591	567	524	536	482	486	574	595	553	241	76	21	5	1	7077
MIGRANTS (02B)												1							1
RUNAWAY (02C)									3	1	9	20	34	2	1				70
WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN (02D)	1	9	14	24	15	5	14	6	15	15	24	45	88	9			1		285
NON-RESIDENT HOSP ROLLS (02E)	1	4	7	13	9	11	6	13	10	27	20	19	9	8	7	1			165
3. DECEASED (06A)			6	5	6	4	4	3	4	9	4	7	13	10	4				79
4. UNDER COMPULSORY SCH AGE (08A)	64	240	41																345
5. PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED																			
PREGNANCY - DOCTOR CERT (10A)																			0
EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE (10B)		2	3	8	4	3	1		1	2	3	3	4	3					37
OTHER (10C)								1			1	10	10	6	2		1		31
C. WITHDRAWALS/DROPOUTS																			
1. GOVERNMENT SERVICES																			
ENLISTED IN ARMED SERV (01C)														8	5	1			14
ENROLLED IN JOB CORPS (01E)													97	34	3	3			137
2. OVER COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE																			
INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03B)														3	2				5
VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03C)														30	17	4	3		54
MARRIAGE (03D)														1	1				2
PROBABLE EMPLOYMENT (03E)														109	32	20	8	3	172
NEEDED AT HOME (03F)														18	5		1		24
OTHER (03H)														3392	1724	781	225	106	6228
3. EMPLOYMENT CERT/EXEMPT PERMIT																			
VERIFIED EMPLOYMENT (04A)													112	5	1				118
MARRIAGE - UNDER 17 YRS (05A)												3	7						10
OWN HOME, NOT MARRIED (05B)												24	53	2					79
OUTSIDE HOME (05C)																			0
4. PREGNANCY W/O DOCTOR CERT (03G)														4	1		1		6
TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	116	2514	3285	1031	918	829	750	774	736	846	1119	1267	1573	8179	5966	1792	481	206	32382

Withdrawal data on Table 7 are displayed by age and grade. The data on this table confirm observations made from previous tables.

Seventeen and eighteen year old students left the system in the greatest numbers (14,145) in 1985-86. A large number (3,959) of 14-16 year olds also left the system in this school year, as did five thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine (5,799) five and six year olds.

Within grade, 5,843 kindergarten and first graders left the Philadelphia schools. In the high schools (grades 9-12) 18,999 pupils left, but 9,437 (50%) of them were graduating seniors, leaving a total of 9,562 pupils who withdrew from school for other reasons. Full-time Special Education students accounted for 981 (3%) of the total withdrawals in 1985-86. (See Figure 5, page 31.)

Age computations for pupils are as of the date of dropout, graduation, or withdrawal. Although some pupils may be in grades which are inappropriate for their ages, these pupils are newly arrived in the United States and are placed at the grade level most appropriate for them.

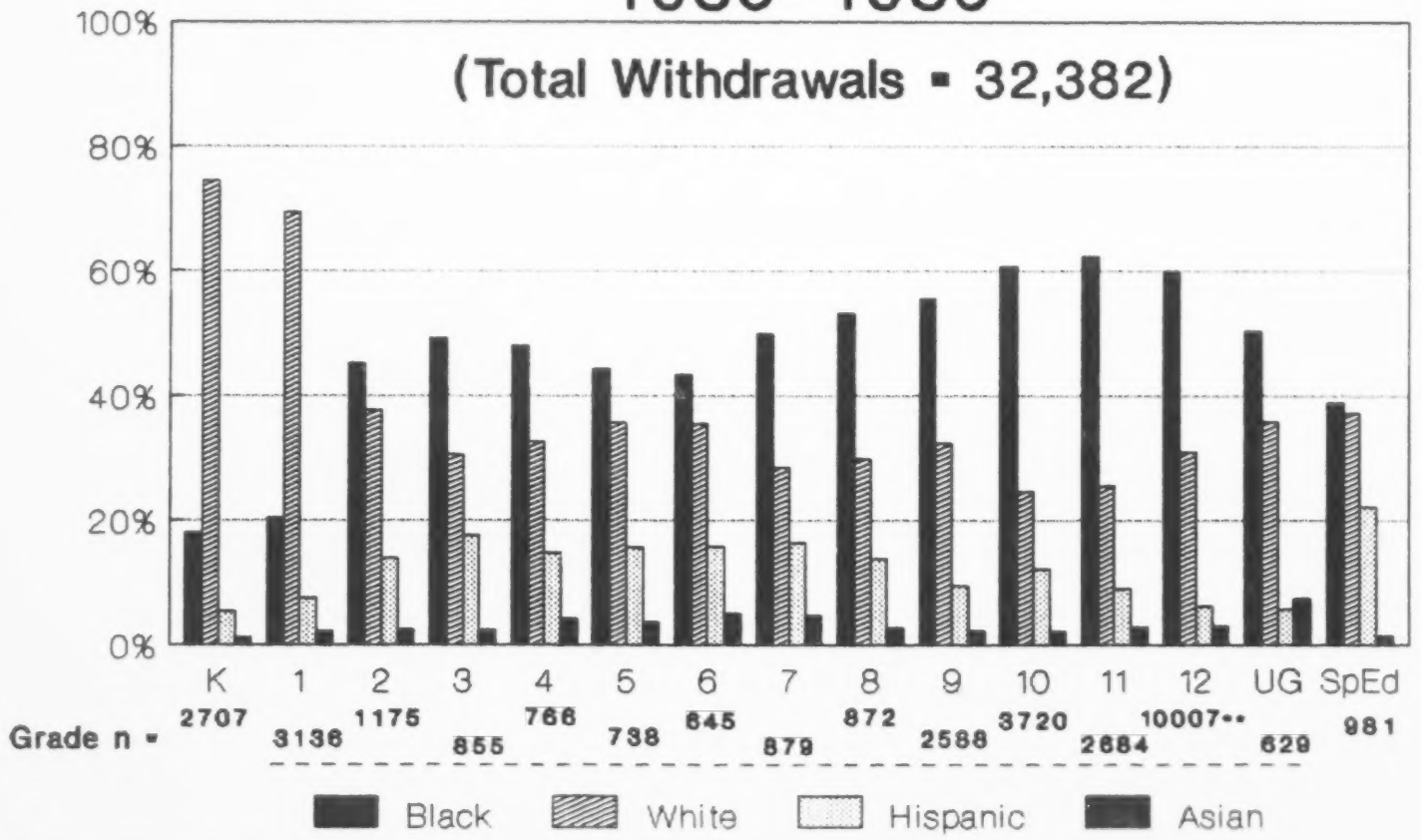
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

TABLE 7. WITHDRAWALS OF ALL TYPES BY AGE AND GRADE, CITYWIDE - 1985-86

CITY TOTALS

AGE	GRADES	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UG	SPEC	TOTAL
UNDER 5		84														32	116
5		1579	914	1											2	18	2514
6		1033	1939	271	1										6	35	3285
7		7	247	609	126										3	39	1031
8		2	34	242	473	122									4	41	918
9		1		38	197	397	121								5	70	829
10		1	2	11	48	185	369	63							8	63	750
11				2	7	54	184	351	92						2	82	774
12				1	3	7	56	154	362	67	2				7	77	736
13							8	53	233	272	157	1			7	115	846
14						1		19	132	235	544	87	1		16	84	1119
15								5	31	141	501	433	60	3	39	54	1267
16									13	83	450	555	290	97	56	29	1573
17									15	70	820	1839	1018	4092	260	65	8179
18									1	4	87	584	838	4239	160	53	5966
19											14	163	359	1181	38	37	1792
20											7	37	87	296	11	43	481
21											6	21	31	99	5	44	206
TOTALS		2707	3136	1175	855	766	738	645	879	872	2588	3720	2684	10007	629	981	32382

Figure 5
WITHDRAWALS BY GRADE AND RACE*
1985-1986



*Bar clusters indicate race percentages of withdrawals for each grade.

**Number includes 9437 graduates.

V. CONCLUSION

It is hoped that the information contained in this report will prove useful to the reader.

Beginning with this report, future reports on graduates, dropouts, and other withdrawals will be published annually. Additional tables will be developed (i.e., comparisons of withdrawals from year to year, closer examinations of certain populations, etc,). Comments and suggestions for improvements and expansion of this report are welcomed.

Additional data at the individual school and district levels are available for review in the Division of Administrative & Survey Research Services, Room 402 in the Administration Building located on 21st Street South of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

APPENDICES

The last report on dropouts published by the School District of Philadelphia was for the 1979-80 school year. Because the data bases used for the current reports (beginning in 1984-85) and the previous dropout reports are different, the reader is cautioned not to compare the dropout rate in this report to those of the previous years (prior to 1979-80).

The table displayed below provides the reader with the notable differences between the reports.

COMPARISON OF DROPOUT DEFINITIONS IN THE 1979-80 AND CURRENT REPORTS

ITEM	1979-80 REPORT	CURRENT REPORTS
Dropout Definition	Dropouts defined as pupils leaving the Philadelphia public high schools before graduation without transferring to another school.	Dropouts are defined as pupils leaving the Philadelphia public schools before graduation without transferring to another school. Dropouts can only occur among pupils in grades 7-12 or UG or Special Education who are 15 thru 21 years old; and only for those withdrawal codes designated as dropout codes.
Enrollment Base Used	Average number on roll for November 1979	Pupils active at any time during the 1984-85 school year; ages 15 thru 21; grades 7-12, UG and Special Education age equivalent.
Race Categories	3 (Black; Hispanic; White/Other)	5 (Black; Hispanic; White; Asian; Amer. Indian)
Ages of Pupils	No specific ages stated as long as pupils were in grades 9-12 in high schools or vocational-technical high schools.	15 through 21 years (Pupils can turn 21 during the school year, but cannot begin the school year at age 21, as required by Pennsylvania Compulsory School Age Laws.)
Grades of Pupils	9-12 only	7-12, Ungraded (UG) or Special Education age equivalent.
Number of Districts	Seven	Seven
Number and Type of Schools Included	Vocational-technical and comprehensive high schools only (32 schools)	Any school with grades 7-12 or UG or Special Education equivalent (132 schools)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. ENROLLMENT

   A. Withdrawal Tables 1 thru 7 - Enrollment includes any pupil actively enrolled in the Philadelphia Public Schools during the 1984-85 school year. Modifications of this definition occur within the Dropout Withdrawal Tables.

   B. Dropout Withdrawal Tables 2 thru 6 - Enrollment used for these tables includes all 7th - 12th graders, UG or Special Education equivalent pupils who were active on roll during the 1984-85 school year and were 15 through 21 years old.

2. WITHDRAWAL - Leaving school for any of the specified withdrawal codes. Includes graduate, dropout, and non-dropout categories.

   A. Dropout - For the purposes of this report, dropouts are defined as pupils leaving Philadelphia public schools before graduation without transferring to another school. Dropouts can only occur among pupils in grades 7 - 12 or UG or Special Education equivalent pupils who are 15 through 21 years old. The designated school dropout codes are listed and described in the "Withdrawal Codes" section of this Glossary.

   B. Graduate - Leaving school following successful completion of the high school curriculum requirements. This category only includes Code 00G.

   C. Non-dropout Withdrawal - Leaving school for all coded reasons other than graduate and dropout withdrawal codes. Non-dropout withdrawals can occur at any age and in any grade. Codes included in this category are listed in the "Withdrawal Codes" section of this Glossary. Code 03H is defined as "Other: Not employed, not needed at home". The pupil is over the compulsory school age, wishes to leave school and is legally able to do so. No specific reason for dropping out of school is needed to drop out after a pupil is beyond compulsory school age.

3. DROPOUT AGE CRITERIA

Although the dropout age criteria is ages 15 through 21, fifteen and sixteen year olds can only drop out in certain cases. Fifteen year olds can drop out only under these codes: Marriage under 17 years (05A); Own Home, Not Married (05B); and Outside Home (05C). Sixteen year olds can drop out for (05A), (05B), and (05C), but also can drop out for: Enrolled in Job Corps (01E); and Verified Employment (04A).

4. WITHDRAWAL CODES

A. DROPOUTS

1. GOVERNMENT SERVICES

ENLISTED IN ARMED SERVICES (01C)
ENROLLED IN JOB CORPS (01E)

2. OVER COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03B)[a]
VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL (03C)[b]
MARRIAGE (03D)
PROBABLE EMPLOYMENT (03E)
NEEDED AT HOME (03F)[c]
OTHER: NOT EMPLOYED, NOT NEEDED AT HOME (03H)[d]

3. EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATE/EXEMPTION PERMIT

VERIFIED EMPLOYMENT (04A)
MARRIAGE - UNDER 17 YRS (05A)
OWN HOME, NOT MARRIED (05B)[e]
OUTSIDE HOME (05C)[f]

4. PREGNANCY

PREGNANT WITHOUT DOCTOR CERTIFICATE (03G)[g]

B. GRADUATION

GRADUATED (00G)

C. NON-DROPOUT WITHDRAWALS

1. ENROLLED ELSEWHERE

PHILA. PAROCHIAL/PRIVATE SCHOOL (01A)
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (01B)
PARENTS IN PHILA. OR OFFICE ROLL (01D)[h]

2. MOVED FROM DISTRICT

MOVED FROM PHILA (02A)
MIGRANTS (02B)
RUNAWAY (02C)
WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN (02D)
NON-RESIDENT HOSPITAL ROLLS (02E)[i]

3. DECEASED (06A)

4. UNDER COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE (08A)

5. PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED

PREGNANT - WITH DOCTOR CERTIFICATE (10A)[j]
EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE (10B)
OTHER (10C)

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[a] Involuntary Withdrawal (03B) - The pupil is over compulsory school age and is required to leave school by the school facility or is incarcerated, but is not enrolled in an educational program.

[b] Voluntary Withdrawal (03C) - The pupil is over compulsory school age and chooses to leave school.

[c] Needed at Home (03F) - This can be either an over compulsory school age male or female who has a child or a relative to care for at home.

[d] Other: Not Employed, Not Needed at Home (03H) - The pupil is over the compulsory school age, wishes to leave school and is legally able to do so. No specific reason for dropping out of school is needed to drop out after a pupil is beyond compulsory school age.

[e] Own Home, Not Married (05B) - Domestic dropout that indicates that the child is at home caring for a relative and not that the child has purchased a home. The child is within compulsory school age range (15 years to 16.9 years)

[f] Outside Home (05C) - Domestic dropout which indicates that the pupil is within compulsory school age and is caring for a relative who does not live in her/his home.

[g] Pregnant Without Doctor Certificate (03G) - An over compulsory school age female who is pregnant and chooses to drop out of school.

[h] Parents in Phila. or Office Roll (01D) - Child may be in school elsewhere, but parents remain in Philadelphia and are responsible for the child. Office roll is a special roll that is used when the child is expected at the school and never arrives or is absent extensively.

[i] Non-Resident Hospital Rolls (02E) - Children who come to Philadelphia hospitals from outside of the city and receive Philadelphia public school education while hospitalized.

[j] Pregnant With Doctor Certificate (10A) - Rarely used anymore because girls under 17 years old are not dismissed from school for pregnancy. Doctor's certification is required to indicate that the pupil must be excused from school to avoid complications to the pregnancy.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

■ LOCATION OF DISTRICT OFFICE

Effective July 1, 1980 the School District of Philadelphia redefined the boundaries of its administrative sub-districts. As a result, District 3 was eliminated and the number of sub-districts was reduced from eight to seven.